

Serial No. 09/914,706

In the Claims:

List of claims:

Claims 1-20 (cancelled).

Claim 21 (currently amended): A method of mixing, aerating or oxygenating ponds, rivers or lakes, sewage/treatment lagoons or effluent beds or air stripping volatile compounds from water or other solutes, the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing a pipe system having a plurality of outlets branching from a common distribution line;
- (b) continuously providing a predetermined minimum volume of a gas comprising oxygen and introducing the gas into the pipe system; and
- (c) delivering a desired constant quantity of the gas at each of the outlets by providing a moving element constant flow regulator means for each outlet which limits gas flow from each of the outlets to a constant amount when pressure in the pipe system exceeds a predetermined minimum value.

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Claim 22 (previously presented): A method as claimed in claim 21 in which the predetermined minimum volume of gas exceeds a calculated minimum volume which is required to be delivered from the outlets.

Claim 23 (previously presented): A method as claimed in claim 21 in which substantially the same quantity of gas is delivered at each outlet irrespective of pressure drop along the pipe system.

Claim 24 (cancelled).

Claim 25 (currently amended): A method as claimed in claim 21 in which gas pressure is kept substantially constant along the distribution line and each constant flow regulator means is a moving "O" ring constant flow regulator ~~delivering an accurate and even quantity of gas at each outlet, the moving "O" ring constant flow regulator operates at a set maximum flow rate at a set pressure.~~

Claim 26 (cancelled).

Claim 27 (previously presented): A method as claimed in claim 21, wherein the gas is air.

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Claim 28 (currently amended): A mixing, aeration or oxygenating system to aerate or oxygenate ponds, rivers, or lakes, sewage or effluent treatment lagoons or beds or to airstrip volatile compounds from water or other solutes and comprising:

- (a) a pipe system having a plurality of outlets branching from a gas distribution supply line;
- (b) a source of pressurized gas comprising oxygen connected to the distribution supply line; and
- (c) [[a]] an "O" ring moving element constant flow regulator for each outlet to cause a desired constant flow of gas to be delivered through the outlets when pressure in the pipe system exceeds a predetermined minimum value, each regulator is designed to only allow a desired maximum flow of gas to pass through at a known pressure of gas.

Claim 29 (previously presented): A method as claimed in claim 28 in which the source of pressurized gas is adapted to supply a predetermined minimum volume of gas, which volume is calculated to exceed a minimum volume which is to be delivered from all the outlets.

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Claim 30 (previously presented): A system as claimed in claim 28 in which each regulator is tuned to deliver a desired calculated supply of gas required at each outlet irrespective of changes in supply pressure such that the regulator is self compensating for changes in supply pressure within a designed operating range of the regulator.

Claim 31 (cancelled).

Claim 32 (cancelled).

Claim 33 (previously presented): A system as claimed in claim 28 in which each outlet has a suitable outlet nozzle.

Claim 34 (previously presented): A system as claimed in claim 28 in which the outlets are disposed in series along the distribution supply line.

Claim 35 (previously presented): A system as claimed in claim 28 in which the source of pressurized gas is a pump which delivers a constant volume of gas.

Claim 36 (previously presented): A system as claimed in claim 28 in which the distribution supply line comprises at least one length of pipe.

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Claim 37 (previously presented): A system as claimed in claim 28 in which the distribution supply line comprises a plurality of lengths of pipe branching from a common manifold.

Claim 38 (previously presented): A system as claimed in claim 28 in which the distribution supply line comprises a plurality of lengths of pipe having a direct connection with the source of pressurized gas.

Claim 39 (previously presented): A system as claimed in claim 28 in which the distribution supply line includes a return line.

Claim 40 (previously presented): A system as claimed in claim 28 in which the distribution supply line is of a ring main type.

Claim 41 (previously presented): A system as claimed in claim 28 in which the outlets incorporate a backflow regulation device and an isolation ball valve.

Claim 42 (previously presented): A system as claimed in claim 28 in which the outlets incorporate a backflow regulation device.

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Claim 43 (previously presented): A system as claimed in claim 28 in which the outlets incorporate an isolation ball valve.

Claim 44 (previously presented): A system as claimed in claim 28, wherein the pressurized gas is air.